Shrikant (Shri) Anant, Ph.D. serves asKansas Mason Professor and Chair of the Department of Cancer Biology in the School of Medicine, University of Kansas Medical Center. In addition, he is the Tom and Teresa Walsh Professor of Cancer Prevention and Associate Director of Basic Science, University of Kansas Cancer Center, an NCI-designated center. Previously, Dr. Anant was the Associate Dean for Research in the School of Medicine.

Dr. Anant received a Bachelor of Science degree in Zoology from Loyola College, University of Madras in 1981, and a Master of Science degree in medical microbiology from the University of Madras, in 1984. Subsequently, he moved to US where he first received a Master of Science degree from Michigan State University in microbiology in 1986. He obtained his PhD in biochemistry and molecular genetics from the University of Illinois at Chicago in 1993.

Dr. Anant is a pioneering biologist with a national reputation in gastrointestinal cancer research. His research spans a wide range of activities – from understanding molecular biology questions to understanding basic mechanisms in cancer cells and the cells in the tumor microenvironment to developing novel compounds that are in clinic. Prior to joining The University of Kansas Cancer Center, Dr. Anant led a team of researchers who discovered new RNA binding proteins RBM3 and CELF2, who act as protooncogene and tumor suppressors, respectively. Earlier, while on the faculty at Washington University in St. Louis, he discovered the APOBEC family of proteins, that play a significant role in gene and RNA editing. More recently, the group has developed novel, patented in vitro technology called “Tumor in a Dish” to study cancer metastasis in a 3-dimensional environment that mimics cancer metastasis to the lung and liver, as well as study the effect of drugs and novel compounds on cancer cells in this environment. In addition, he is a co-inventor of drugs that target unique targets in various cancer cells including the stem cell marker protein DCLK1, which he discovered in early 2000. One such drug, Fosciclopirox is currently in a phase II clinical trial. A frequent lecturer and visiting professor, he is on the editorial boards of Gastroenterology, Cancer Research, PLoS-One, American Journal of Physiology-GI and Liver, and International Journal of Cancer. He was the previous chair of the Basic Sciences Review Panel for complementary and alternative medicine at NIH and Program Projects review panel for the National Cancer Institute.

Shri and Swati, his wife of 33 years have two children. Son, Bharat is the Head of Finance for Sensor Towers, the leading provider of market intelligence and insights for the global app economy. Daughter, Deepa is Global Supply Manager at Apple. Swati is a Director for Total Rewards at Nidec Motor Corporation. Shri and Swati love to travel and visit their families in US and India.